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## THE NEW YEAR.

According to the computation of time adopted by the Catholic and Protestant Christian nations, the year eighteen sixty-one has passed away, and its successor eighteen sixty-two has been inaugurated, with a fair prospect of its being as notable in the history of the world, from the transpiration of important events, as either of its two immediate predecessors, than which no more eventful and memorable years have been known for a long period of time. Scenes have been opened or commenced, since the first day of January eighteen sixty, that may not be expected to close or terminate for years to come, and not till a great change shall have taken place in the status of nations, and a better order of things instituted for the benefit and happiness of the human race than those that now exist in the kingdoms and countries claiming to be more civilized and enlightened than other portions of the family of Adam, scattered over the earth.

For many years previous, thousands of people were looking forward to the year eighteen sixty, as a time when great events would transpire. The expectations of many were fully realized by the occurrences of that year, and so they have been by those that transpired during the year that has just passed away; but there are not a few who are so anxious to see things move faster than they have, with all the celerity that has attended the onward motion of the events which have, in so short a time, disrupted a powerful nation, that they complain of the slow progress of the war, and wish that the work of years could be accomplished in a few days. We are not of the latter class, and believe that all things will be brought about and accomplished in the way and manner, and at the time predestined for, their occurrence, and have no desire to have things move differently from the manner in which they now progress; and should their motion not be accelerated during the next twelve months, there will unquestionably be interesting and important incidents enough presented for consideration, aside from the battles that will be fought, to prevent doubts arising in relation to the ultimate fulfillment of all that has been predicted concerning the nations of the earth.

What may transpire or come to pass during the year eighteen sixty-two we do not pretend to know; but whatever may befall the people outside the Great Basin, we predict that prosperity will attend all the inhabitants of Deseret who mind their own business, stay at home, live their religion, and labor for the building up of the kingdom of God upon the earth, which is not to be overthrown, like other kingdoms in the latter days. The future of Utah or Deseret will be more prosperous than the past. Such is the faith of all who understand the signs of the times, and know what the Lord is doing in the earth among the nations; and whether Congress heeds the call for admission into the Union of the States or not, the yoke of oppression will ere long be so effectually broken, that it cannot be longer placed upon the necks of those who have been borne down with it for so many years.

The day of deliverance for Utah cannot be far distant. It may come in eighteen sixty-two, and it may not; but if we are not mistaken in our conclusions, the dwellers in these mountain valleys will not have many more such Governors as the one recently sent here, to rule over them. We hope not; we trust not. The nobles of the people of any State or Territory should be of themselves, and their Governors should proceed from the midst of them, and especially should such be the case in this Territory where the elements are so uncongenial that few of those who desire the position of rulers and judges, and come here for that purpose, will remain in the country

for any considerable length of time. The signs of the times are favorable for a change in relation to the condition of the people of this Territory, so far at least as their rulers and judges are concerned; and it is very generally believed that before the year eighteen sixty-two shall have passed away, the prayer of Utah will be heard, and she will become an independent State, possessed of all the rights and privileges extended to others.

## Departure of the Governor.

On yesterday, at about 2 o'clock, p.m., Governor Dawson took his departure, by the Eastern daily stage, on his return to Indiana, under circumstances somewhat novel and peculiar. For the last eight or ten days previous to his leaving, he was confined to his room, and reported to have been very sick, and what was worse, in a state of mental derangement, or in other words, distressingly insane. This report of his physician, not a very popular man in this community, was at first disbelieved, but it was subsequently ascertained to be verily true, and his affliction of a very serious character, so much so, that he imagined that he had committed a heinous offense, no less than offering a gross insult to a respectable lady of this city, to whom he requested his physician to offer a large sum as hush money, &c., &c.

When the fact of the Governor's insanity was fully established many were the conjectures as to the cause which produced the aberration of mind under which he was laboring. Some were of the opinion that it was hereditary and that his ancestors in their lifetime had been similarly afflicted; others believed that his journey across the plains, and the incidents thereof had effected his brain. There were some who thought that the labor of producing such a lengthy and profound message as the one he read to the Legislative Assembly on the 10th ult. had been too much for his feeble mind; several opined that the state of the atmosphere in this high altitude had produced unexpected results upon the Hoosier who had probably never before inhaled a breath of pure air, while by far the greatest number to whom the awful circumstances attending his condition were made known unreservedly stated that, in their opinion, when all the facts in relation to the matter were made known it would fully be made to appear that there was good cause for his assertions that he had made criminal approaches to a lady, and that his insanity was attributable alone to a circumstance of that kind.

From Wednesday till Sunday last, rumor upon rumor was in circulation, and many were the inquiries that were made in relation to the Governor's health and condition, which was reported and generally believed to be no better, but hopelessly worse. Such, also, was reported by his friends on Monday, in consequence of which, great was the surprise when it was announced, on Tuesday morning, that he had made all things ready, and would take the stage for the East on its departure in the afternoon of that day.

Never, since the organization of the Territorial government of Utah, has such an occurrence transpired, and never was the public mind more agitated than during the last day of the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one, in Great Salt Lake City. The sequel proved that nearly every announcement made by madam Rumor was true—there was little or no fiction attending the matter. The Governor went and took with him his physician, a doctor Chambers, late of Winona, Minnesota, and four noted individuals as guards to wit: Lott Huntington, Jason and William Luce and Moroni Clawson, to each of whom, as reported last evening, one hundred dollars is promised, in the event that they guard him faithfully and prevent his being killed or becoming qualified for the office of chamberlain in a king's palace, till he shall have arrived at and passed the eastern boundary of the Territory. All these things, notwithstanding their resemblance to fiction, are known to be true; and by the stage, to-day, Judge Crosby and Martin, the repudiated quasi ex-Superintendent of Indian Affairs, also go east for reasons best known to themselves. So says report.

Last evening, after Governor Dawson left, fearful and awful disclosures were made. The opinions of the many, that the Governor had committed an offence that might endanger his personal safety, in the event the insulted lady had relatives in the Territory, proved to

be correct, he had recently done what, under the common law of the country, would, if it had been enforced, caused him to have bitten the dust and, as soon as he was informed that the deed would be divulged by the injured party, he suddenly became sick and crazy, made his will and sent his physician once and again to offer large rewards to the lady, if she would make affidavit that nothing of the kind reported had transpired.

Strange as this may seem to our readers it was verily so, and the Hoosier, who, while on his way hither, and for a while after his arrival, thought himself some great one, at once came to the conclusion that the climate of his native State, Indiana, was more congenial to men of his temperament, habits and propensities than that of Utah, and wisely enough resolved to return thither without unnecessary delay; but why he selected the individuals named for his body guard no one, with whom we have conversed, has been able to determine. That they will do him justice and see him safely out of the Territory there can be no doubt.

Rumor says that the disreputable Governor will stop at some point this side of the South Pass and wait till Crosby and Martin get ready to go, which is understood will be to-day, when the trio will travel in company for mutual protection across the plains, probably never to return to these mountain valleys again, and should a few others of the same stamp residing here, resolve to leave the Territory, and carry their resolution into effect it would be a great blessing to the citizens of Utah.

## WAR NEWS ITEMS.

The latest intelligence received by mail from the east is to the 12th ult.

The St. Louis papers of December 8th, state that Gen. Pope had been assigned to the command of all the national forces between the Missouri and Osage rivers. This force constituted the largest part of the army which Gen. Fremont took to Springfield. Busy preparations were being made for the establishment of winter quarters for the troops.

Gen. Price was then reported to be south of the Osage. It was also reported that he would be superseded by Gen. Heath, of Virginia, who had been appointed a Major-General.

On the 10th about eight miles west of Sedalia, ten mule teams on a foraging expedition, were seized by a party of secessionists, but a subsequent report states that, after taking the arms of the party, they were permitted to return to Sedalia with their teams. About the same time a train of fifty wagons from Lexington, laden with supplies for Price's army, passed within fifteen miles of Sedalia unmolested.

There were four recruiting offices open in Lexington enlisting men for the Southern army. A meeting was held there on the 6th at which several prominent Secessionists spoke, urging a united effort in behalf of the Southern cause. Similar meetings had been held in Clay, Ray, and other river counties, and subscriptions for money, clothing, etc., were in circulation.

It is stated that when Price was besieging Lexington, a deputation of citizens was sent to him from Saline county with an urgent request that he would not allow his army to enter that county, which was complied with. The reason for the request was that great dread was entertained by the inhabitants of that county of the plundering propensities of Price's rebels. The county, west of Jefferson, city, the richest in the State, it was said, had furnished nearly as many men and as much means in behalf of the rebellion as the balance of the State, while they had been almost entirely exempt from marauders, and has rarely been visited by the Federal troops.

Since then they have not been neglected, and reports say they have been visited alternately by the Unionists and Secessionists, each giving the adherents of the party opposed to them in the war particular fits.

A party of exasperated citizens attacked a gang of Secessionists who had returned from Gen. Price's army, near Duncansburgh, and killed seven and wounded ten of their number, three of whom afterwards died.

The notorious Hays, with three hundred men, visited Independence on Monday the 9th, and seized all the horses belonging to the Pacific Mail Company, and made a general confiscation of all property belonging to Union citizens.

By order of Gen. Hunter, Col. Jennison's regiment had moved to a point midway between Kansas city and Leavenworth. All communication between Kansas city and Independence was cut off.

A correspondent at Atchison in a communication, dated Dec. 9th, states that Jennison had visited Jackson county, and made the Secessionists leave there in great haste, fleeing for their lives, without waiting to take much of their property along with them.

Letters received at Louisville, Ky., on the 9th, from Somerset and Stanford, stated that the Federal forces under General Schoeff had been compelled to retreat this side of Somerset, and that the Secessionists, ten thousand strong, had crossed Cumberland river, and were marching on Somerset, and men, women and children were leaving that place in every possible conveyance.

The Stanford people thought Gen. Schoeff should be reinforced, and the Democrat editorially was of the opinion that Gen. Schoeff's purpose in falling back on Somerset was to catch Zollicoffer in a trap.

Some ten thousand additional troops had arrived at Columbus, Ky., since the battle of Belmont. The Confederate troops were rapidly concentrating there, and declared that seventy-five thousand men could not take the position.

Several men who fled from Letcher and Perry counties were in Frankfort, appealing for protection against Williams and his gang, who had invaded those counties, plundering the people, driving off stock, and in some instances murdering Union men.

The Memphis Avalanche of the 5th announced that, on the 4th, the steamships Florida and Pamlico engaged the Federal fleet off the east end of Horn Island, near Pensacola, and the Federal fleet had to haul off.

It is reported that near Frederick, on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 7th, a Confederate force, consisting of a battery of six pieces, and about four hundred infantry and two hundred cavalry, made their appearance at Dam No. 5, on the Virginia side, and commenced throwing shells and shot at the dam and houses on the Maryland shore, burning a barn and riddling the houses within range, continuing the fire until dusk.

The only Union forces there to oppose the enemy were a company of the Massachusetts Thirteenth, on picket duty, and an unarmed Illinois regiment. As the Massachusetts company was armed with smooth-bore muskets, their fire was not effective at that distance.

Early on Sunday morning the 8th, they resumed the fire with artillery and small arms, and, emboldened by the slight resistance met with on Saturday, came down to the very brink of the river, and exposed themselves without fear.

During the night Col. Leonard dispatched a canal boat from Williamsport, and another company of his regiment arrived with Enfield rifles, who were concealed as skirmishers along the Maryland shore. On the renewal of the attack the riflemen opened fire from their concealment, and in a short time the Confederate artillerymen were compelled to abandon their battery in hot haste, their infantry and cavalry leaving the ground about the same time.

The loss of the enemy was estimated at twenty killed and as many wounded.

For the want of a sufficient infantry force, and a battery to protect his movements, Col. Leonard was compelled to let the guns remain in position, and after nightfall the Confederates returned and took them off.

## Our Amende.

We have received a communication from Postmaster Bell in which he alleges that our article in last week's issue on "Postage in Utah" misrepresented his position and relationship therewith. He claims to have acted in perfect accordance with the instructions of the Postmaster General, and that the change back to the three cent rate of postage is due to the reversal of the former decision of that department. Since the publication of our last issue we have been assured, by parties who were in Washington at the time of the passage of the new law, that it was generally understood that Utah was comprised in the ten cent provision.

We have no disposition to mis-state facts, and take pleasure in making this statement.

A SEVERE GALE.—On Christmas morning there was a severe wind storm, which unroofed several houses, and did considerable damage to sheds, fences and other erections not of sufficient strength to resist the force of the wind. The storm, however, was of short duration.